

Environmental Division NEPA Programs

Categorical Exclusion (CE)

Project Information

Project Name: South Boston Roundabout Federal Project#: STP-5130(027)

Project Number: U000-130-343, P101 **Project Type:** Construction

UPC: **Charge Number:** UPC 119166; Activity 6xx 119166

Project

Number(Assoc)(UPC):

Route Number: 501 **Route Type:** Urban

Project Limit--From: 0.11 MILE SOUTH OF WALL To: 0.03 MILE NORTH OF WALL

STREET STREET

Additional Project

This project consists of the construction of a new single-lane roundabout at US 501, Wall Street, and Factory **Description:**

Street in the Town of South Boston. A new sidewalk along the east side of Factory Street and on both sides of

Main Street and Broad Street will also be installed.

Purpose And Need: The purpose of this project is to improve traffic flow and safety.

District: City/County: **Residency:**

Lynchburg South Boston Halifax

Date CE level document approved by VA Division FHWA: 05/12/2023

FHWA Contact: Jones, Kevin

Project in STIP: Yes In Long Range Plan? N/A-Outside MPO Area

CE Category 23 CFR 771.117: d13

Description of Category: Actions described in paragraphs (c) (26), (c)(27), and (c)(28) of this section that do not meet the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section. (e) Actions described in (c) (26), (c)(27), and (c)(28) of this section may not be processed as CEs under paragraph (c) if they involve:(1) An acquisition of more than a minor amount of right-of-way or that would result in any residential or nonresidential displacements; (2) An action that needs a bridge permit from the U.S. Coast Guard, or an action that does not meet the terms and conditions of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers nationwide or general permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899;(3) A finding of "adverse effect" to historic properties under the National Historic Preservation Act, the use of a resource protected under 23 U.S.C. §138 or 49 U.S.C. §303 (Section 4(f)) except for actions resulting in de minimis impacts, or a finding of "may affect, likely to adversely affect" threatened or endangered species or critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act; (4) Construction of temporary access, or the closure of existing road, bridge, or ramps, that would result in major traffic disruptions; (5) Changes in access control; (6) A floodplain encroachment other than functionally dependent uses (e.g., bridges, wetlands) or actions that facilitate open space use (e.g., recreational trails, bicycle and pedestrian paths); or construction activities in, across or adjacent to a river component designated or proposed for inclusion in the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Logical Termini and Independent Utility: Yes

Next Phase of Funding Available? Yes

Comments: None.

Typical Section: The roundabout consists of a 114' center island, a 14.5' truck apron, and a single 18' travel lane. A 5' sidewalk will be

installed throughout the project.

Structures: The travel lanes on the bridge over the Dan River will be restriped to transition traffic in and out of the proposed roundabout.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC

Minority/Low Income Populations: Present with impacts Disproportionate Impacts to Minority/Low Income Populations: No

Source: EJScreen (5/9/23); EJ Community Outreach (6/29/23) **Existing or Planned Public Recreational Facilities:** Not Present

Community Services: Present with no impact

Consistent with Local Land Use: Yes

Source: Southside Planning District Commission Senior Planner (6/20/23); 2045 Southside PDC Rural Long Range Plan (adopted January

2020)

Existing or Planned Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities Present with no impact

Source: VDOT Lynchburg District Planner (12/6/22); Halifax County Bike Plan Map (adopted February 2003)

Socio-Economic Comments: Minority/low income populations were identified through EJScreen (5/9/23) to be within the project area. Certified letters were mailed on 6/29/23 to all properties with proposed R/W acquisition. No comments were received. Further coordination with Central Office NEPA Programs Manager, Lynchburg District Civil Rights, and DEQ Regional EJ Coordinator will occur when announcing the public availability of the CE and/or public hearing. This project is consistent with the 2045 Southside PDC Rural Long Range Plan (adopted January 2020). The Halifax County Bike Plan Map (adopted February 2003) identifies this segment of Route 501 as an on-road bike route and appropriate shoulder accommodations should be made for bicyclists.



SECTION 4(f) and SECTION 6(f)

Use of 4(f) Property: Yes

4(f) Evaluations:

Selected Evaluation(1): Acres of Use: 0.5 Type of Use: Permanent

Type of Resource: Individual Eligible Historic Property Name of Resource: South Boston Historic District

Comments: DHR acknowledged on 6/30/23 that FHWA intends to make 4(f) de minimis finding.

De Minimis: Yes

The officials with jurisdiction have concurred that the transportation use of the Section 4(f) resource, together with any impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation or enhancement measures incorporated into the project, does not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f).

Based on this FHWA intends to make a De minimis impact finding.

Selected Evaluation(2): **Acres of Use:** 0.05 **Type of Use:** Permanent

Type of Resource: Contributing Element to Historic District Name of Resource: DHR ID #130-0006-0125

Comments: DHR acknowledged on 6/30/23 that FHWA intends to make a 4(f) de minimis finding.

The officials with jurisdiction have concurred that the transportation use of the Section 4(f) resource, together with any impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation or enhancement measures incorporated into the project, does not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f).

• Based on this FHWA intends to make a De minimis impact finding.

Selected Evaluation(3): Acres of Use: 0.05 Type of Use: Permanent

Type of Resource: Contributing Element to Historic District Name of Resource: DHR ID #130-0006-0126

Comments: DHR acknowledged on 6/30/23 that FHWA intends to make a 4(f) de minimis finding.

De Minimis: Yes

The officials with jurisdiction have concurred that the transportation use of the Section 4(f) resource, together with any impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation or enhancement measures incorporated into the project, does not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f).

· Based on this FHWA intends to make a De minimis impact finding.

Source: Preliminary Plans (5/24/23); eMaps; DHR concurrence(6/30/23); FHWA 4(f) de minimis findings (7/20/23); Town Manager (5/9/23)

6(f) Conversion: No **Acres of Conversion:**

4(f) Comments: DHR acknowledged on 6/30/23 that FHWA intends to make a 4(f) de minimis finding for the proposed Right-of-Way acquisition from the South Boston Historic District (DHR ID #130-0006) and its contributing resources (DHR ID #130-0006-0125 and #130-0006-0126). FHWA made the 4(f) de minimis findings on 7/20/23. The Town Manager verified on 5/9/23 that the major purpose of area around the Blue Star Memorial, landscaping, and flags is not for a park, recreation, or refuge activities; therefore, this property is not a Section 4(f) property.

6(f) Comments: There are no Section 6(f) properties within the project area.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Section 106 Effect Determination: NO ADVERSE EFFECT

Name of Historic Property: South Boston Historic District and Two Contributing DHR Concurrence date: 06/30/2023

Resources

MOA/PA Execution Date: None

Cultural Resource Comments: DHR concurred on 6/30/23 that this project will have no adverse effect on the South Boston Historic District (DHR ID #130-0006) and its contributing resources (DHR ID #130-0006-0125 and #130-0006-0126).



NATURAL RESOURCES

Are Waters of the U.S. present? No Linear Feet of Impact: Less than 0

Federal Threatened or Endangered Species:

Tri-colored Bat (Perimyotis subflavus)-Federal:FP-May affect, Not Likely to adversely Effect

Northern Long-Eared Bat (Myotis septentrionalis)-Federal:FE-May affect, Not Likely to adversely Effect

Based upon review of federal databases including IPaC, federal T&E species have a \(\sqrt{04/26/2023} \) M Clark

potential to occur in the project area.

100 Year Floodplain:NoneRegulatory Floodway Zone:Not PresentPublic Water Supplies:Not PresentAre any tidal waters/wetlands present?No

Wetlands: None Tidal Acres of Impact: 0 Tidal Wetland Type: None

Are any Non-Tidal Wetlands Present? No Non Tidal Acres of Impact: 0 Non Tidal Wetland Type: None

Total Wetland Acres of Impacts: 0

Are water quality permits required? No

Natural Resource Comments: There will be a Time-of-Year Restriction (TOYR) for tree removal from April 1 through November 14 of any given year for the protection of bats species. Bat inspections will be required prior to demolition of buildings. No water quality permits are required.

AGRICULTURAL/OPEN SPACE

Open Space Easements: Not Present

Agricultural/Forestal Districts: Not Present

Source: Project Definition Form

Agricultural/Open Space Comments: There are no Open Space Easements or Agricultural/Forestal Districts within the project area.

FARMLAND

NRCS Form CPA-106 Attached? No

NRCS Form CPA-106 not attached because:

Entire project in area not zoned agriculture.

Alternatives Analysis Required? No

Source: Town of South Boston Zoning Map

Farmland Comments: This project does not impact farmland.

INVASIVE SPECIES

Invasive Species in the project area? Unknown

There is potential for invasive species to become established along the limits of disturbance of the project during and following construction. Section 244.02(c) of VDOT's Road and Bridge Specifications includes provisions intended to control noxious weeds (which includes non-native and invasive species).

While rights-of-ways are at risk from invasive species colonization from adjacent properties, implementing the above provisions would reduce or minimize potential for introduction, proliferation, and spread of invasive species. Additionally, the implementation of best management practices for erosion/sediment control and abatement of pollutant loading would minimize indirect impacts to adjoining communities and habitat by reducing excess nutrient loads that could encourage invasive species proliferation.

Invasive Species Comments: No comments.



AIR QUALITY

Air Quality Status and Regional Conformity

Jurisdiction Description: This project lies in an area that is currently in attainment with all of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). In accordance with 40 CFR Part 93, transportation conformity requirements are not applicable to the project since the project is not located in a nonattainment or maintenance area for any transportation-related criteria pollutant (i.e., ozone, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, and carbon monoxide). The following VDEQ air pollution regulations must be adhered to during the construction of this project: 9 VAC 5-130, Open Burning restrictions; and 9 VAC 5-50, Article 1, Fugitive Dust precautions.

Carbon Monoxide

CO Microscale Analysis Required for NEPA? No

✓ The proposed project meets the criteria specified in the current FHWA-VDOT "Programmatic Agreement for Project Level Air Quality Analyses for Carbon Monoxide" and therefore a project-specific analysis for CO is not required.

the project is located in a region that is attainment of the CO NAAQS, EPA project-level ("hot-spot") transportation conformity requirements do not apply. As only NEPA applies, a project-specific analysis and/or assessment for carbon monoxide (CO) is not needed under the terms of the programmatic agreement between FHWA and VDOT for project-level air quality analyses for CO. As documented in that agreement, which is based on the analysis and information presented in the template Programmatic Agreement and Technical Support Document (TSD) developed in the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) 25-25 Task 104 study (2020), the weight-of-evidence shows that it may reasonably be concluded that the national ambient quality standard (NAAQS) for CO will be met.

Particulate Matter

This project is located in: A PM2.5 Attainment Area

PM Hotspot Analysis Required? No

The final rule that establishes the transportation conformity criteria and procedures for determining which transportation projects must be analyzed for local air quality impacts in Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) nonattainment and maintenance areas was published on March 10, 2006. This project is located in a PM2.5 attainment area and therefore no further discussion of PM2.5 is necessary.

Mobile Source Air Toxics

This project requires: No further discussion of MSAT

✓ The project qualifies for a categorical exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117.

This project is excluded from further analysis following FHWA's Interim Guidance Update on MSAT Analysis in NEPA dated January 18, 2023 for projects qualifying as a categorical exclusion under 23 CFR 771.117.

NOISE

Noise Scoping Decision: Type III- Noise study not required

Barriers Under Consideration? No

Noise Comments: The project does not shift the alignment substantially. This is not a Type I project; therefore, a noise study was not required.

RIGHT OF WAY AND RELOCATIONS

Residential Relocations: No

Commercial Relocations Yes Number of Commercial Relocations: 2

Non-Profit Relocations: No **Right of Way required?** Yes

Fee Simple: 0.59 Temporary Easement: 0.41
Permanent Easement: 0 Utility Easement: 0.27

Amount of Right of Way Acreage: 1.27

Septic Systems or Wells: Not Present Hazardous Materials: Present with impacts

Source: Preliminary Plans (5/24/23); Stage 1 Relocation Assistance Report (6/21/23); Town Manager (7/19/23); Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (2/10/23)

ROW and Relocations Comments: Both commercial relocations are tenants within in the same building. Per the Town Manager, the Town of South Boston reworked the entire downtown area in 1988 which was met with controversy from the insurance office due to being relocated to their existing location. The Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) (2/10/23) recommends a Phase II ESA within the project footprint to determine if contamination exists in soil and groundwater.



CUMULATIVE AND INDIRECT IMPACTS Present or reasonably foreseeable future projects (highway and non-highway) in the area: Yes

Impact same resources as the proposed highway project (i.e. cumulative impacts): No

Indirect (Secondary) impacts: No

Source: Town of South Boston Revenue Sharing Application

Cumulative and Indirect Impacts Comments: The Town of South Boston has submitted a Revenue Sharing Application to convert Main Street and Broad Street back to two-way traffic within existing Right-of-Way. Main Street and Broad Street will be converted back to two-way traffic prior to the roundabout being open to traffic.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Substantial Controversy on Environmental Grounds: No

Source: Southside Planning District Commission Senior Planner (6/20/23)

Public Hearing: Yes **Type of Hearing:** Design Public Hearing

Other Public Involvement Activities: No

Public Involvement Comments: A Design Public Hearing is scheduled for early 2024.

COORDINATION

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

State Agencies: **Federal Agencies:**

Department of Conservation and Recreation

Department of Forestry

Department of Health Department of Wildlife Resources

Department of Environmental Quality

Department of Historic Resources

Local Entity:

South Boston Town/City Manager Halifax Superintendent of Schools South Boston Planning District

Other Coordination Entities:

None

| Bradley, Kevin R | 07/21/2023 | |
|---|------------|--|
| Environmental Manager, CE Certification | Date | |

This project meets the criteria for a Categorical Exclusion pursuant to 40 CFR 1508.4 and 23 CFR 771.117 and will not result in significant impacts to the human or natural environment.

